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Applicant: Elad, et al  
Serial No.: 09/846,121  
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47. (original) A computer system of claim 37 wherein advertisement of the availability of commitment protocols and time qualifications supported by the system leads to the market evolution of the most efficient protocols and time qualifications.

48. (original) A computer system of claim 37 wherein advertisement of the optimality of honest characterization of the utility of each attribute utility causes market participants to communicate an honest assessment of those utilities, thereby improving the market for both buyers and sellers.

49. (original) A computer system of claim 37 wherein auction protocols are invoked when there are at least two requests per one offer or at least two offers per one request.

50. (original) A computer system of claim 37 wherein the abstract representation of the relationship of the utility of an attribute of the request is created using at least one technique selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) linear functions,
- (b) piece-wise linear functions,
- (c) logistic functions,
- (d) cubic splines,
- (e) look-up tables, and
- (f) other numeric functions that compute utility with respect to a given attribute's states.

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51. (original) A computer system of claim 37 wherein the abstract representation of the relationship between price of the offer and at least two states of an attribute of the offer, is created using at least one technique selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) linear functions,
- (b) piece-wise linear functions,
- (c) logistic functions,
- (d) cubic splines,
- (e) look-up tables, and
- (f) other numeric functions that compute price with respect to a given attribute's states.

52. (original) A computer system of claim 37 wherein the abstract representations of requests and offerings are communicated by termsheets and offersheets, respectively.

53. (original) A computer system of claim 37 wherein requests describe employment positions and the offerings describe employee attributes and compensation requirements.

54. (original) A computer system of claim 37 wherein the requests describe tasks to be accomplished, and the offers describe agents, people and or software, willing to accomplish those tasks.

55. (original) A computer system of claim 37 wherein the information is communicated through the internet by internet protocol messages.

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56. (original) A computer system of claim 37 wherein buyers and sellers access the system via web pages, Java clients, or other executable client programs.